

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for error protection of a cache memory, wherein each entry in a tag memory and a data store within the cache memory associates with a parity bit, comprising:

(a) providing a read request to a system memory associated with the cache memory, the read request correlating to an entry in the tag memory and the data store;

(b) checking the parity bit associated with the correlated entry in the tag memory and the parity bit associated with the correlated entry in the data store;

(c) if ~~either act (a) or act (b)~~ indicates an error is detected in the ~~corresponding~~ correlated entry in the data store, declaring a miss[[:]] and ~~(d)~~ invalidating the correlated entry in the data store ~~if a miss is declared in act (c)~~.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the cache memory is a second level cache.

Claim 3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 3, wherein act (b) comprises:

checking the parity bit associated with the correlated entry in the tag memory; and

if the parity bit associated with the correlated entry in the tag memory indicates no error:

determining if the correlated entry in the tag memory indicates a hit; and

if there is a hit, checking the parity bit associated with the correlated entry in the data store.

Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 4, further comprising:

if the parity bit associated with the correlated entry in the data store indicates no error, retrieving the correlated entry from the data store.

Claim 6: (original): The method of claim 5, wherein the retrieving the correlated entry from the data store act comprises retrieving the data line containing the correlated entry.

Claims 7 to 12 (canceled).